



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

P.T.O. Confirmation No. 1751

FUKUIZUMI, et al.

Group Art Unit: 1743

Serial No.: 09/619,768

Examiner: Brian R. GORDON

Filed: July 19, 2000

For. METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PREPARING CHEMICAL SOLUTIONS

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date: March 18, 2005

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action of February 9, 2005, requiring restriction among three alleged inventions under the provisions of 35 USC § 121.

In the Action, the examiner made a restriction requirement among the inventions of **Group I** drawn to a method for preparing a chemical solution (claims 1-12); **Group II** drawn to a chemical solution preparation apparatus (claims 13-31 and 34-38); and **Group III** drawn to a chemical solution refinement device (claims 32-33).

Applicants hereby provisionally elect **Group II, that is, claims 13-31 and 34-38 as well as claims 41-43**, for examination on the merits in this application. Applicants reserve the right to file one or more divisional applications directed to the subject matter of the non-elected claims.

Favorable consideration of the subject application is respectfully requested.

Serial No.: 09/619,768  
OA dated 12/14/04  
Resp. dated 3/18/05

In the event this paper is not timely filed, the undersigned hereby petitions for an appropriate extension of time. The fee for this extension may be charged to Deposit Account No. 01-2340, along with any other additional fees which may be required with respect to this response.

Respectfully submitted,

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